

CLAIMS

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82
1. A camera system, the system comprising:
 - a stationary camera having a wide angle view;
 - a remotely controllable camera having a relatively smaller angle view for providing images in substantially full resolution; and
 - a processor for monitoring the wide angle view of the stationary camera, enabling selection of a desired subject within the wide angle view, generating an electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject based on the wide angle view of the stationary camera, controlling the remotely controllable camera for providing a view that overlaps the electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject, and processing the electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject in accordance with the resolution of the remotely controllable camera.
 2. The camera system according to claim 1 wherein the stationary camera comprises a electronic-pan-tilt-zoom camera.
 3. The camera system according to claim 1 wherein the remotely controlled camera comprises a mechanical-pan-tilt-zoom camera.
 4. The camera system according to claim 1 wherein the processor comprises a computer.

5. The camera system according to claim 1 further including means for displaying the substantially full resolution view of the desired subject.

6. The camera system according to claim 1 wherein the processor includes means for receiving calibration data that defines particular operational characteristics of the stationary and remotely controlled cameras.

7. A method of operating a camera system, comprising the steps of:

providing a camera system having a stationary camera providing a wide angle view
and a remotely controllable camera set having a relatively smaller angle view for
providing images in substantially full resolution;

monitoring the wide angle view of the stationary camera;

selecting a desired subject within the wide angle view;

generating an electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject based on the wide
angle view of the stationary camera;

controlling the remotely controllable camera for providing a view that overlaps the
electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject; and

processing the electronic pan-tilt-zoom view of the desired subject in accordance with
the resolution of the remotely controllable camera.

8. The method according to claim 7 further comprising the step of providing calibration data that defines particular operational characteristics of the stationary and remotely controllable cameras.

9. The method according to claim 7 wherein the processing step further comprises the step of displaying the processed view of the desired subject.

10. The method according to claim 7 wherein the selecting step comprises the step of generating pixel data defining the desired subject within the wide angle view.